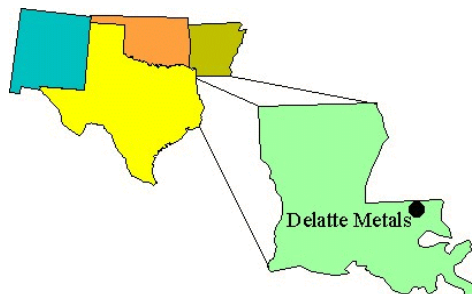


# DELATTE METALS SUPERFUND SITE

## Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana

EPA Region 6  
EPA ID# LAD052510344  
Site ID: 0600428  
Contact: Brian Mueller 214.665.7167  
State Congressional District: 1  
Fact Sheet Updated: September 2012  
Next Scheduled update: October 2012



### Background

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Delatte Metals is located at 19113 Weinberger Road in Tangipahoa Parish about 2.5 miles southeast of Ponchatoula, Louisiana. The Site includes Delatte Metals, Inc., the abandoned North Ponchatoula Battery facility, and off-facility areas. The combined area of the two facilities is approximately 18.9 acres. The total area of the site, encompassing both on-facility and off-facility areas, is 56.8 acres. The operations performed at the facility included spent lead-acid battery demolition to remove associated lead plates and the subsequent lead smelting of the lead plates to produce lead ingots. The Site is in a rural area of Tangipahoa Parish. The Site consists of the original facilities, wetlands, tributaries, Selsers Creek, Cypress Swamp, undeveloped land, and residences.

There are approximately 645 residents that live within a 1-mile radius of the site. Weinberger Road is south of the facility area, and south of Weinberger Road is a residential neighborhood. Immediately north of the facility area is a residential neighborhood. Selsers Creek is west of the facility and west of Selsers Creek is residential property, undeveloped land, and farmland.



During the remedial action approximately 42,400 cubic yards (cy) of soil were excavated, treated, and disposed of at an off-site landfill and approximately 10,000 cy of off-facility soil meeting cleanup levels was placed in the excavations. Additionally, 1.5 million gallons of water was treated and discharged, 33 acres were cleared, approximately 300 drums containing investigation-derived waste were disposed, and 0.5 cy of asbestos containing material was removed from a storage building, double-bagged, and disposed as non-hazardous waste material.

### Current Status

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The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) maintains the site and performs routine ground water monitoring. The cleanup was completed in September 2003, and the site was removed from the National Priorities list on August 8, 2005.

The first Five-Year Review was completed in November 2007 and included recommendations for site maintenance, ground water monitoring, and surface water monitoring. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is working with LDEQ to address these recommendations.

The LDEQ has completed the following site maintenance actions:

- June and July 2008: Monitoring well repairs.
- December 8-10, 2008: maintenance of the areas around the sampling wells, removal of trees and bushes in the vicinity of the permeable reactive barrier (PRB), and the mowing of the area around the PRB to facilitate inspection of the PRB, eliminate vegetation, and provide access to the piezometers around the PRB.
- December 1-3, 2008: Fence and gate repair.
- June 23, 2009: information signs were posted along the site property boundaries
- December 2009: PRB clearing, inspection, and well inspection.
- March 11, 2011: PRB maintenance including clearing and backfilling low areas.



The EPA and LDEQ have completed or continue performing the following actions related to ground water monitoring and investigation:

- Quarterly ground water monitoring of site wells and piezometers across the site and within all three water-bearing zones continues.
- Ground water monitoring quarterly reporting continues.
- January 9, 2009: finalized the work plan for sampling and evaluation of surface water, and surface water to ground water interaction.
- September 2009: finalized the Long-term Monitoring Optimization Report.
- March 30, 2009 through February 8, 2010: 4 sampling events were completed.
- April through May 2010: subsurface investigation by the US Geological Survey (USGS) to refine extent of first water-bearing zone and contaminant plume
- September 2010: finalized report on Surface Water and surface water/ground water interaction

Based on the findings of the Surface Water investigation, additional ecological data will be gathered during 2011 to evaluate potential toxicity and risk in support of the next Five-Year Review scheduled for completion in 2012. This report was finalized in July 2012.

The USGS continues to assist with ground water sampling. In addition, USGS continues to consolidate subsurface information in a report to be submitted to the Agencies for review. The draft report was completed in April 2011. The Report was finalized the report in August 2012.

The purpose of this supplemental work is to ensure the long-term protectiveness of the remedy and satisfy the recommendations set forth in the Five-Year review. Site data and risk evaluation data will be used in combination to determine the next potential phase of work.

The EPA, in coordination with the LDEQ, has begun activities for the Second Five-Year Review. A public notice was published in February, and the site visit and inspection actions were completed February 28 and 29, 2012. Following the site inspection, EPA and LDEQ will work on drafting the report and reviewing available site data and information that will be used to provide follow-up recommendations in the Final report.

### **Duplicative Review by the Office of Inspector General**

On November 19, 2008, the Office of Inspector General (IG) released its report on its evaluation of the Delatte Metals Superfund Site and, in that report, the IG cited the same recommendations as those identified in the 2007 Five-Year review. The Agency's response to this report can be viewed at [EPA Response](#). During the five year review process, the Agency recognized the need for additional data related to the protectiveness of the site remedy and made the recommendations presented above. All

future actions taken at the site by EPA and LDEQ will be consistent with and in accordance with the five-year review recommendations as well as satisfy those recommendations made by the IG.

Based on further data review, it was determined that EPA had insufficient data to determine whether the remedy remains protective. On July 14, 2009, the EPA issued an addendum to the First Five-Year Review acknowledging the need for additional data before a determination regarding the protectiveness related to the migration of metals can be made. The addendum addresses additional steps EPA needs to take to assure that the remedy remains protective. The addendum can be found at [5 Year Addendum](#).

## Benefits

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The cleanup eliminated unacceptable health risks for future industrial workers, area residents, and to the environment.

The cleanup addressed the following:

- Approximately 41,000 cubic yards (cy) of on-facility and 1,400 cy of off-facility soil were excavated, treated, and disposed of at an off-site landfill. The total weight of soil disposed of at the landfill was 85,444 tons.
- Approximately 10,000 cy of off-facility soil meeting on-facility cleanup levels was placed in the on-facility excavations.
- An estimated 12.51 million pounds (1.5 million gallons) of water was treated and discharged. Approximately 450 tons of concrete was disposed of as hazardous waste.
- A total of 33 acres was cleared and grubbed and all trees, shrubs, and stumps were chipped and scattered on-facility. Miscellaneous debris encountered during the remedial effort at the site was transported to the landfill and disposed of as non hazardous waste. Examples of miscellaneous debris include telephone poles, old tires, drums, Polyvinyl Chloride pipe, wood pieces, household trash, and other solid waste.
- Approximately 300 drums containing investigation-derived waste were disposed.
- Approximately 0.5 cy of asbestos containing material was removed from a storage building, double-bagged, and disposed as non hazardous waste material.

[Note: a 1.5 conversion factor was used to convert tons to cubic yards and a conversion factor of 8.34 was used to convert gallons to pounds.]

**Reuse:** Approximately 18.9-acres are available for future industrial use.

**Environmental Indicators:** EPA issued an addendum to the First Five-Year Review acknowledging the need for additional data before a determination regarding the protectiveness related to the migration of metals can be made. The removal of contamination during the remedial action, implementation of continued operation and maintenance activities, enforcement of institutional controls, and completion of five-year reviews are conducted to evaluate human and ecological exposure. Currently, the ground water migration and exposure pathways are being evaluated through monitoring of the permeable reactive barrier, ground water, and surface water in accordance with the five-year review recommendations.

## National Priorities List

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Proposal Date: July 28, 1998  
Final Listing Date: January 19, 1999  
Final Deletion Date: August 8, 2005

Location: The Site includes the Delatte Metals, Inc., the abandoned North Ponchatoula Battery facility, and off-facility areas. The site is located at 19113 Weinberger Road in Tangipahoa Parish about 2.5 miles southeast of Ponchatoula, Louisiana.

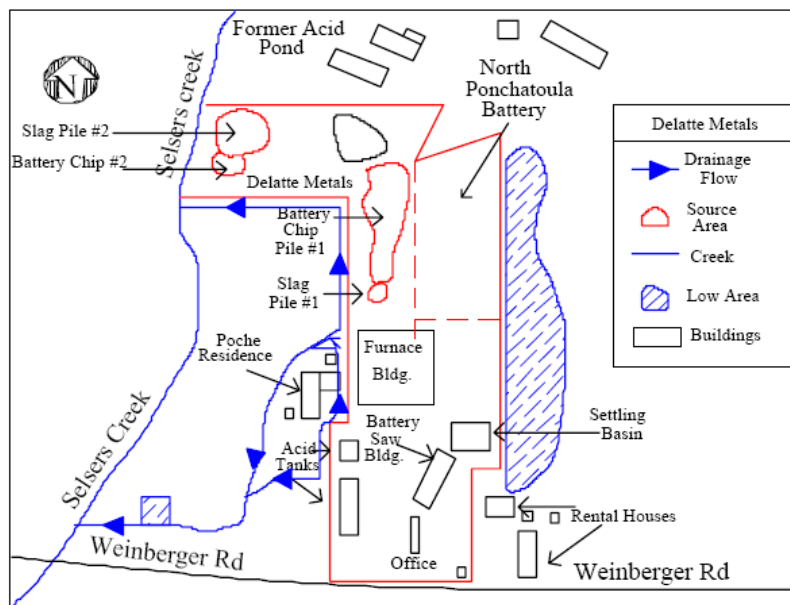
Population: There are approximately 645 residents that live within a 1-mile radius of the site

Setting: The combined area of the two facilities is approximately 18.9 acres. The total area of the site, encompassing both on-facility and off-facility areas, is 56.8 acres. The Site is in a rural area of Tangipahoa Parish. The Site consists of the original facilities, wetlands, tributaries, Selsers Creek, Cypress Swamp, undeveloped land, and residences. Weinberger Road is south of the facility area, and south of Weinberger Road is a residential neighborhood. East of the facility area is undeveloped land containing wetlands. Immediately north of the facility area is a residential neighborhood. West of the facility area is a residence, undeveloped land containing wetlands, and Selsers Creek. West of Selsers Creek is residential property, undeveloped land, and farmland.

The operations performed at the facility included spent lead-acid battery demolition to remove associated lead plates and the subsequent lead smelting of the lead plates to produce lead ingots. The typical process at the facility involved sawing off the tops of the batteries and removing the lead plates in the battery saw building. After opening the battery cases, the battery acid was drained into a sump. The acid was pumped to an unlined pond located on the north side of the Site. After the closure of the acid pond, the acid was pumped through an underground pipe to the acid tank farm. The spent acid was then shipped off-site for recycling.

Principal Pollutants: EPA removed several contaminated source piles and facility structures from the site during winter 1998 to spring 1999. About 85,444 tons of lead contaminated soil was removed during the remedial action. The first local water-bearing zone (Class 3B unusable shallow groundwater) was lead-contaminated and had acidic conditions. The third local water-bearing zone (Class 1B drinking water aquifer) was not contaminated.

## Site Map



## Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment

The numerical cleanup goals are 1,700 ppm lead (industrial), 500 ppm lead (residential), 80 ppm lead (ecological). Lead is the most abundant and widespread contaminant of concern.

## Community Involvement

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The LDEQ and EPA have been at the site conducting routine sampling and have engaged in conversation with surrounding community members regarding the site activities.

A factsheet providing a progress status of the site was issued on September 10, 2009, and was followed by a newspaper notice published on September 24, 2009. The Surface Water work plan and Five-Year Review Addendum are located in the site repository for public review.

## Record of Decision

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Source and Groundwater: ROD signed September 26, 2000
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The ROD includes:

1. Immobilization to address the principal threat wastes in the soil thus eliminating the source of contamination for sediment, surface water, and ground water;
2. Off-site disposal to transport immobilized wastes to a disposal facility;
3. Permeable treatment walls to neutralize the acidity of the shallow ground water and limit the migration of dissolved metals;
4. Institutional controls for deed notices to inform the public of Site conditions; and,
5. Ground water monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of the selected remedy.

There are highly mobile lead source materials identified as principal threat wastes. These materials will undergo immobilization treatment and then be transported to an off-site disposal facility. The remaining low-level threat wastes will be contained on-site.

The installation of permeable treatment walls within the first local water-bearing zone will neutralize the acidity of the shallow ground water and limit the migration of dissolved metals. This will prevent any migration of soil contaminants into the viable aquifers and aid in the immobilization treatment process.

Deed notices will ensure that the cleanup will be protective for areas designated as industrial, residential, and ecological use. Continued ground water monitoring will verify the long-term effectiveness of this remedy.

## Explanation of Significant Differences

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The Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) was signed on December 14, 2004. The EPA issued this ESD to document the increase in cost; increase in waste volume treated and disposed; and, revisions to the cleanup values. The total volume of waste treated and disposed was 85,444 tons; this represents an increase of 32,794 tons over the estimated 52,650 tons presented in the September 26, 2000, Record of Decision (ROD). The final remedial action (RA) cost of \$13.1 million is an increase of \$3.2 million over the ROD estimate of \$9.9 million. Cleanup values were established for additional on-facility and off-facility areas identified for cleanup during the remedial action.

## Site Contacts

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